

## AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the specification as follows:

**Amend Page 1, lines 1-17, to read as follows:**

### PACKAGING BAG, AND METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING SAME

#### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a packaging bag, particularly a transverse- or side-sealed bag of plastics film.

In the manufacture of side- or transverse-sealed plastic packaging bags a problem arises from time to time in that the mouth edge of the bag may tend to curl during the manufacturing process. This problem is particularly noticeable when producing the bags from a shrink film, due to the application of the heat to achieve the side seal or transverse seal between adjacent bags in a stream being produced, particularly when working with film thicknesses of smaller values. One solution to this problem has been to add a final step of trimming off the mouth edge material after formation of the side-sealed bags, in order that freshly exposed mouth edge will have a straight, uncurled configuration in the finished bag.

#### BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a novel packaging bag which is resistant to the curling experienced with the prior art bags.

**Amend Page 3 lines 11-19 as follows:**

A fourth aspect of the invention provides a method of packaging, comprising taking a bag according to the first aspect, or a bag made by the method of the third aspect, and pneumatically inflating the mouth of said bag to separate the edge of said shorter first ply from said projecting edge of the second ply to initiate opening of the bag, and subsequently holding the bag open and introducing a product article into a respective said open bag.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

In order that the present invention may more readily be understood the following description is given, merely by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

**Amend Page 4 lines 1-5, as follows:**

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

The improved packaging bag shown in Fig. 1 is a side-sealed bag 1 having a closed end 1a at which are joined together first and second superposed main panels 2 and 3 which are sealed along opposite edges 4 and 5 by a heat-sealing operation. In this embodiment the closed end 1a is a first fold in the film material providing the two plies defining the panels 2 and 3.